BATMAN
BATMAN
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
ROUGHER
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SISTERS IN ARMS
PART ONE:
It's a Man's World

Cats are seriously weird.
To the Romans they were a symbol of liberty. The ancient Egyptians held them sacred, and killed the Romans if they harmed one.
"Brought forth by the moon," they used to say.

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Yet, a thousand years later, when Satan walked the world, they looked for him in the form of the cat—
YOU'VE GOT ALL OUR MONEY! CAN'T YOU JUST LEAVE US ALONE...?
THE CASH IS YOUR TOLL FOR SAFE PASSAGE THROUGH OUR TURF, GEEK!
SWAK
MY TURN
YEAH! THE FUN COMES FREE...
AIN'T THAT RIGHT, HONEY?
SWAK!
AAAH!
WHAM!
KRAK
FUT!
OUR TURN

SPAP
TURN
KAK!
YOUR
I'LL TEACH YOU--!
SHIK
OOH...! I LIKE TO PLAY ROUGH...!
SLASH!
AAAAGH!

D-DON'T HURT US! PLEASE--!
HURT YOU? GIRLY-- HELPING AIRHEADS WHO ARE TOO STUPID TO TAKE A CAB HOME ISN'T USUALLY MY STYLE--
--AND IF THIS IS THE THANKS I GET, I WON'T BE DOING IT AGAIN!
I...I'M SORRY.
BUT, I MEAN--WHY SHOULD WE TAKE A CAB? THIS IS OUR CITY. WHY SHOULDN'T WE BE ABLE TO WALK THE STREETS IN SAFETY?
NOT MY PROBLEM--
-- TAKE IT UP WITH THE MAYOR!
SHEESH! SAVED BY A WOMAN. HOW HUMILIA-TIN'!
IS THAT ALL YOU'RE BOTHERED ABOUT? WE COULD'VE BEEN BEATEN UP, OR--OR--
DON'T SWEAT IT. WE'RE OKAY.
BETTER THAN OKAY, IN FACT. THE CATWOMAN DROPPED THIS.

WE'RE LAUGHIN'!

AND WHAT'S THE JOKE, EXACTLY?

...CATWOMAN? I THOUGHT SHE'D HAVE HER LINE.
IT OBVIOUSLY STILL IS. JUDGING BY THESE JEWELS, SHE WAS ON HER WAY HOME FROM A HEIST.
POLICE

THEN WHY RISK HERSELF WITH THE GOOD CITIZEN KICK?
I DIDN'T GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO ASK HER THAT.
YOU COULD HAVE FOLLOWED HER!

I COULDN'T. I HAVE A MEETING I CAN'T MISS.
VERY CONVENIENT!
YOU DON'T LIKE ME VERY MUCH, DO YOU, COMMISSIONER GORDON?
YOU'RE A VIGILANTE, BATMAN. BY RIGHTS YOU SHOULD BE LOCKED UP!

IF IT WASN'T FOR THE WAY JIM GORDON FEELS--AND THE GOOD HE SWEARS YOU'VE DONE THIS CITY--I'D ARREST YOU MYSELF!
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THEN I OWE HIM MY THANKS. HOW IS HE?
BEARING UP. BUT YOU KNOW JIM-- THINKS CHAOS AND ANARCHY ARE HELD IN CHECK ONLY WHEN HE'S ON THE STREETS!
I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T SAY THIS -- BUT HE'D APPRECIATE A VISIT.
YOU'RE A GOOD COP, SERGEANT, AND YOU'RE GOOD FOR JIM. I HOPE YOU STICK AROUND--
--EVEN IF IT MEANS I GET YOU ON MY CAGE!
HOLY FRENCH FRIES! A PRIVATE MEETING, HE SAID-- AND HALF OF GOTHAM'S FINEST'S WAITING!
TIME FOR MRS. POTATO'S LITTLE BOY TO MAKE A U! LAST TIME BATMAN INVOLVED THE COPS IN A CAGE OF MINE, IT COST ME A COOL TEN THOU!
POTATO P.I.
SKID
WHAT--?
WHO'S THERE?
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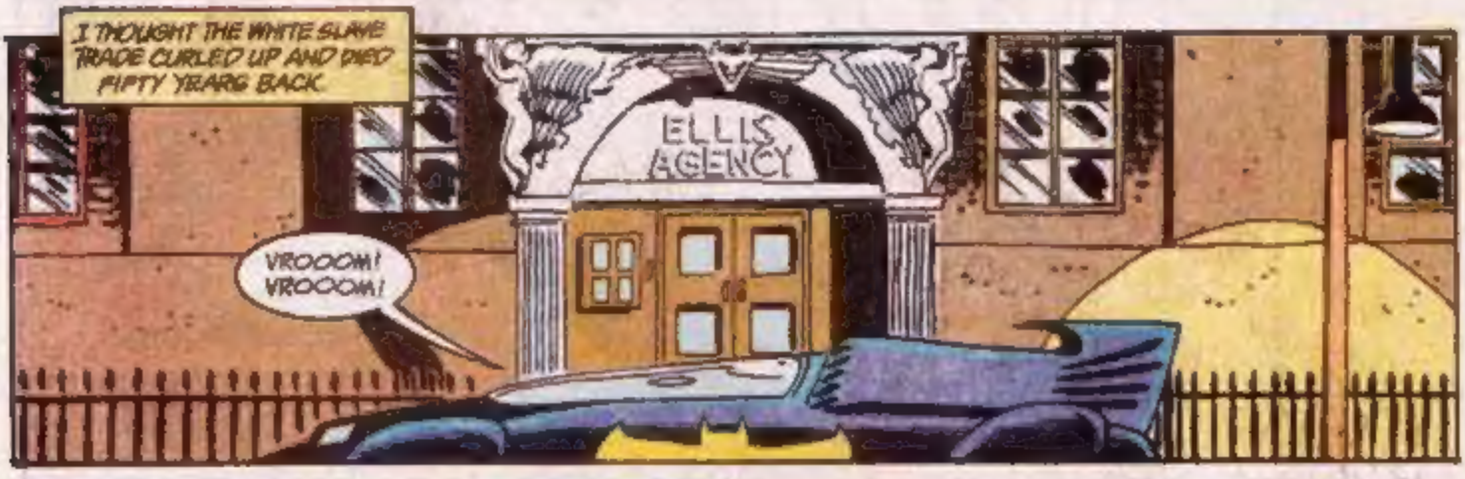
I MIGHT'VE KNOWN.
WHAT'S WITH THE UNIFORMED ESCORT?
DIFFERENT CASE. SO...WHY'D YOU WANT TO SEE ME, JOE?
I NEED HELP WITH A HOT POTATO I BEEN ASKED TO HANDLE. PIN BACK THE EARS, PAL--
--WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE WHITE SLAVE TRADE?
Bast was Egypt's cat-headed goddess, Keeper of the divine Solar Fire.
Nobody messed with her, even the heavy guys like Osiris and Taurt the Crocodile.
SELINA...?
They've always liked power, cats.
SELINA! HEY, I'M GLAD YOU GOT BACK SAFE!
DON'T I ALWAYS?
COFFEE?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU, SELINA...
THERE I WAS, FRESH IN ON THE GREYHOUND FROM FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA -- COUNTRY GIRL LOST IN BIG BAD GOTHAM...
YOU TOOK ME IN -- JUST LIKE ONE OF YOUR STRAY CATS. NO RENT, NO FANCIES. NEXT THING I KNOW, YOU REVEAL YOU'RE THE CATWOMAN!
I MEAN, WHY PICK ME AS A FRIEND? WHY ANYBODY? I THOUGHT CATS WERE LONERS...
YOU REMIND ME OF SOMEONE, ARIZONA... SOMEONE ELSE WHO WAS TOO YOUNG AND INNOCENT TO SURVIVE ON THE STREETS.
YOU NEED A CAT TO LOOK AFTER YOU!
THIS SOMEONE... IS THAT WHY YOU SOLD YOUR CLUB AND MOVED--
SO WHAT'S THIS -- "QUIZ NIGHT"?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
I'M WRITING A BOOK. I'M GOING TO CALL IT "WEIRD CAT STUFF", OR "KITS 'N' PUSSIES" OR SOMETHING.
THIS IS GOOD!
WHEN IT'S PUBLISHED AND I'M RICH AND FAMOUS, I'LL PAY YOU BACK FOR ALL YOUR KINDNESS.
AAAAAAAAAA
KRAZY KAT
KONATZ

YOU DON'T NEED TO JUST YET. I PICKED UP SOME NICE JEWELS--
DAMN!


I THOUGHT THE WHITE SLAVE TRADE CURLED UP AND DIED FIFTY YEARS BACK.
ELLIS AGENCY
VROOOM! VROOOM!

NOT ACCORDING TO JOE POTATO, HE SAYS THERE'S AN AGENCY HIRING GIRLS AS DANCERS FOR THE ORIENT--
SCREEEE!
ONLY, THEY DANCE INTO THIN AIR!

WHAT A MACHINE! MAKES MY TRUCK LOOK LIKE A RICKSHAW! COMPUTERS AN' EVERYTHIN'--
KLK
TEK

ALERT! UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY!
HUH?

WHSHSHSHHHHHH
DEFENSE MODE ENGAGED PREPARE TO EJECT!
BUT I DIDN'T MEAN--
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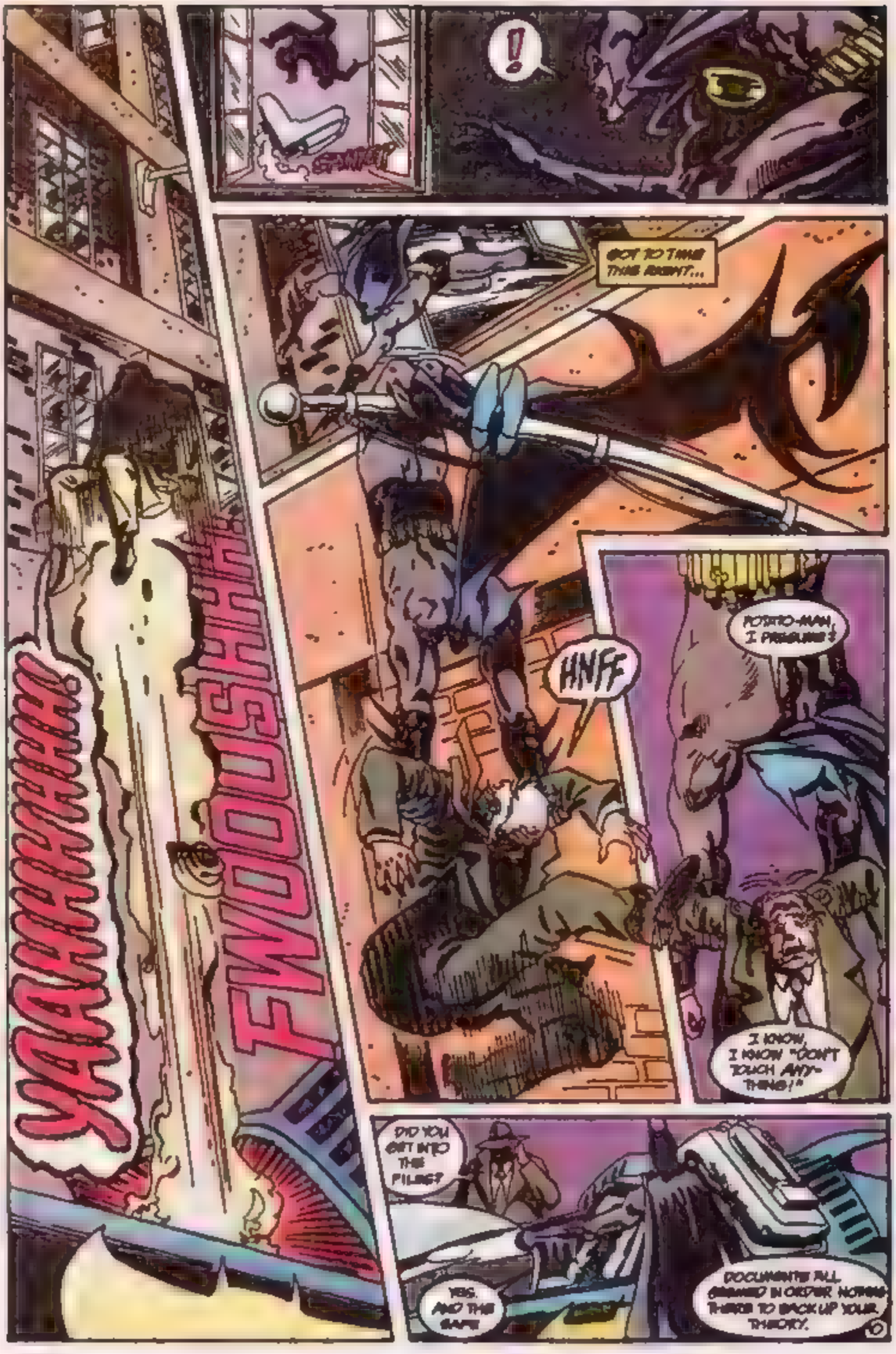
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GOT TO TIME THIS RIGHT...
HNFF
POTATO-MAN, I PRESUME?
I KNOW, I KNOW "DON'T TOUCH ANY-THING!"
DID YOU GET INTO THE FILES?
YES. AND THE GAPS
DOCUMENTS ALL GRAMED IN ORDER. NOTHING THERE TO BACK UP YOUR THEORY.
YAAA

BATMAN, THE COUPLE WHO HIRED ME HAVE A MISSING DAUGHTER. SHE FLEW OUT EAST WITH THIS AGENCY. I'VE TRACKED DOWN THREE MORE FAMILIES HAVEN'T HEARD FROM THEIR KIDS IN A YEAR.
THAT'S HARD FACT-- NOT THEORY!
HMM. QUESTION IS-- WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?
GOTHAM COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
--JEWELRY, STOLEN FROM A DOWNTOWN STORE AND VALUED AT 20,000 DOLLARS, WAS RECOVERED BY THE BATMAN AFTER CATWOMAN'S VICIOUS ASSAULT, WHICH HOSPITALIZED FOUR!
VIEWERS OF THIS CHANNEL WILL REMEMBER THE CATWOMAN'S LAST ATTACK, ON OUR OWN REPORTER BARBARA PALMAN, AND ASK THEMSELVES:
IS THE SELF-STYLED "QUEEN OF CRIME" RUNNING OUT OF CONTROL?
WE ASKED THE MORNING SHOW'S RESIDENT PSYCHIATRIST, DR. BILL PERKINS, FOR AN ANSWER.
IN A WORD, ANDY--PERHAPS.
BASED ON WHAT LITTLE WE KNOW OF HER, I'D SAY CATWOMAN IS A MAN-HATER--A COMPULSIVE CRIMINAL--AND PROBABLY SUFFERS FROM EITHER A MASSIVE INFERIORITY COMPLEX, OR...
...UHH...A MASSIVE SUPERIORITY COMPLEX.
"THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO RESIST A CHALLENGE. I'D BET HER NEXT JOB WILL BE THE EGYPTIAN EXHIB--
KLIK
SARAH!

I'M ON MY WAY HOME AFTER NIGHTSHIFT. THOUGHT I'D JUST MAKE SURE YOU'RE OKAY.
I'M NOT AN INVALID..
HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA HA!
SARAH .. I'M SORRY THIS HAD TO HAPPEN JUST WHEN WE WERE... YOU KNOW
I KNOW I CONSOLE MYSELF IT WAS THE KISS THAT DID IT--NOT THE SMOKING AND THE JUNK FOOD AND THE STRESS!
SO WHAT'S THE LOWDOWN ON THIS CATWOMAN SCAM?
NEVER YOU MIND THE DOC SAID YOU DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT WORK FOR A MONTH!
DROP BY THIS EVENING AGAIN?
I'LL TRY I MIGHT BE ON DUTY
CATWOMAN.. THIS EGYPTIAN EXHIBITION?
IT MIGHT BE
KEEP AWAY FROM HER, SARAH
AND YOU CALM DOWN!
BUT SHE'S DANGEROUS..

SO AM I, JIM
FABLED EMERALD CAT OF KARNAK WILL BE ON EXHIBIT. THERE'S NO WAY AN UNBALANCED PERSONALITY LIKE CATWOMAN'S CAN RESIST THE CHALLENGE IT REPRESENTS
AS THE POET ONCE SAID: "WHAT FEMALE HEART CAN GOLD DESPISE? WHAT CAT'S AVERSE TO FISH?"
AS THE POET ONCE SAID--
DONK
CRUD!
RELAX SELINA HE'S ONLY TRYING TO PROVOKE YOU
I KNOW
AND HE'S SUCCEEDED!
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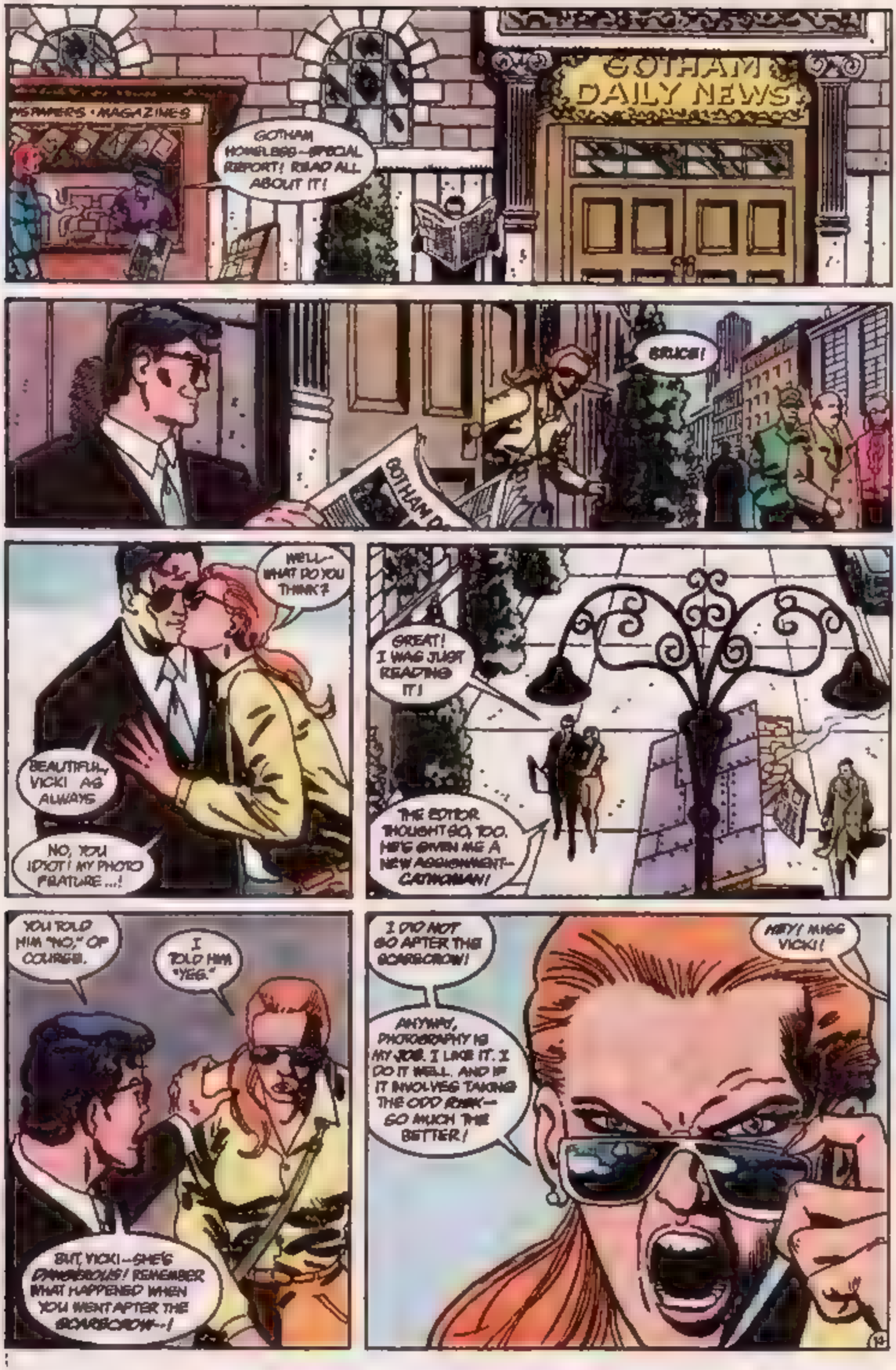
GOTHAM DAILY NEWS
GOTHAM HOMELESS—SPECIAL REPORT! READ ALL ABOUT IT!
BRUCE!
WELL—WHAT DO YOU THINK?
BEAUTIFUL, VICKI AS ALWAYS
NO, YOU IDIOT! MY PHOTO FEATURE...!
GREAT! I WAS JUST READING IT!
THE EDITOR THOUGHT SO, TOO. HE'S GIVEN ME A NEW ASSIGNMENT—CATWOMAN!
YOU TOLD HIM "NO," OF COURSE!
I TOLD HIM "YES."
BUT, VICKI—SHE'S DANGEROUS! REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU WENT AFTER THE BOMBSHELL—!
I DID NOT GO AFTER THE BOMBSHELL!
ANYWAY, PHOTOGRAPHY IS MY JOB. I LIKE IT. I DO IT WELL. AND IF IT INVOLVES TAKING THE ODD RISK—SO MUCH THE BETTER!
HEY! MUGG VICKI!
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GREAT FEATURE! TELLS IT ABOUT US LIKE IT REALLY IS!
WON'T BE NO FAULT OF YOURS IF THE POWERS IN GOTHAM DON'T TAKE NOTE!
YOU'RE A LADY!
AND YOU'RE A GENTLEMAN, LAMAR.
GLAD YOU THINK SO— 'CAUSE I WOULDN'T WANT YOUR BOYFRIEND THINKIN' I WAS NO CHEAP SKIRT TRYIN' TO HUSTLE FIVE—I MEAN TEN— BUCKS FOR A DECENT MEAL...!
DC
The tiger was paced to the Shrapnel, the poker, its the worst hand you ask got: six high.
I can never figure that one.
BUT, GIRLNA! IT'S A HEADTRIP! ANYONE TO GET IN!
IT'S AN INVESTMENT! IT'LL BE WORTH IT, TRUST ME.
GOTHAM GALLERY
EGYPTIAN EXHIBIT
JUST PLAY IT COOL!

SELINA! WOW!
ARIZONA, I SAID PLAY IT--
-COOL!
AH, MR WAYNE! DELIGHTED YOU COULD COME!
AND THE FAMOUS HUGG VASE!
YOUR FEATURE WAS EXCELLENT-- SO GOOD, IN FACT I HAVE DECIDED TO DONATE PART OF TODAY'S PROCEEDS TO GOTHAM'S HOMELESS!
WOW...WHAT DO YOU THINK? MAGNIFICENT, YES?
IT IS ESPECIALLY THE KARNAK CAT.
BUT AREN'T YOU A LITTLE WORRIED, ? THE WAY I HEAR, SOME TV SHOW AS GOOD AS CHALLENGED CATWOMAN TO STEAL IT!

A LOVELY LADY, I AM SURE -- BUT SHE WOULD BE A FOOL TO TRY!
I HAVE A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR GUARD -- ELECTRONIC ALARMS -- PANELLED PADS IN THE CAT-ROOM FLOOR.
AND IF ALL ELSE FAILED -- CHAN AND KANO WOULD NOT!
TIME TO GO!
BUT I'M NOT FINISHED LOOKING! IT'S MATERIAL FOR MY BOOK!
I TOLD YOU -- THIS IS BUSINESS.
BUT YOU CAN'T GO AHEAD! YOU SAW THE SECURITY!
-- SORRY WE COULDN'T STAY LONGER. BUT I HAVE BUSINESS...
OF COURSE! I UNDERSTAND, MR. WAYNE
WHY -- OFFICER BARKIN, ISN'T IT? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BACK IN TOWN.
YEAH I SAW PROBLEMS -- BUT NOT INSURMOUNTABLE, IF I TAKE A FEW PRECAUTIONS!
DIDN'T YOU, MR. WAYNE?

WELL, I AM.
AND IT'S SERGEANT NOW!
YOU KNOW HER?
SHE WAS GORDON'S ASSISTANT MET HER ONCE
IF I CAN GET YOU A ONE, I REALLY WASN'T JOKING WHEN I SAID I HAD BUSINESS.
ME, TOO
I HOPE IT'S NOT THIS CRAZY CATW.
ENOUGH! YOU KNOW, YOU'RE BEGINNING TO SOUND LIKE MY MOTHER!
AND THAT IS NOT A GOOD SIGN!
I'LL CALL YOU!
You get good cats, like Puss in Boots, and Dick Whittington's pal. And you get real lowdown turf cats, the britches' familiars.
Sometimes, it's hard to tell one from the other.
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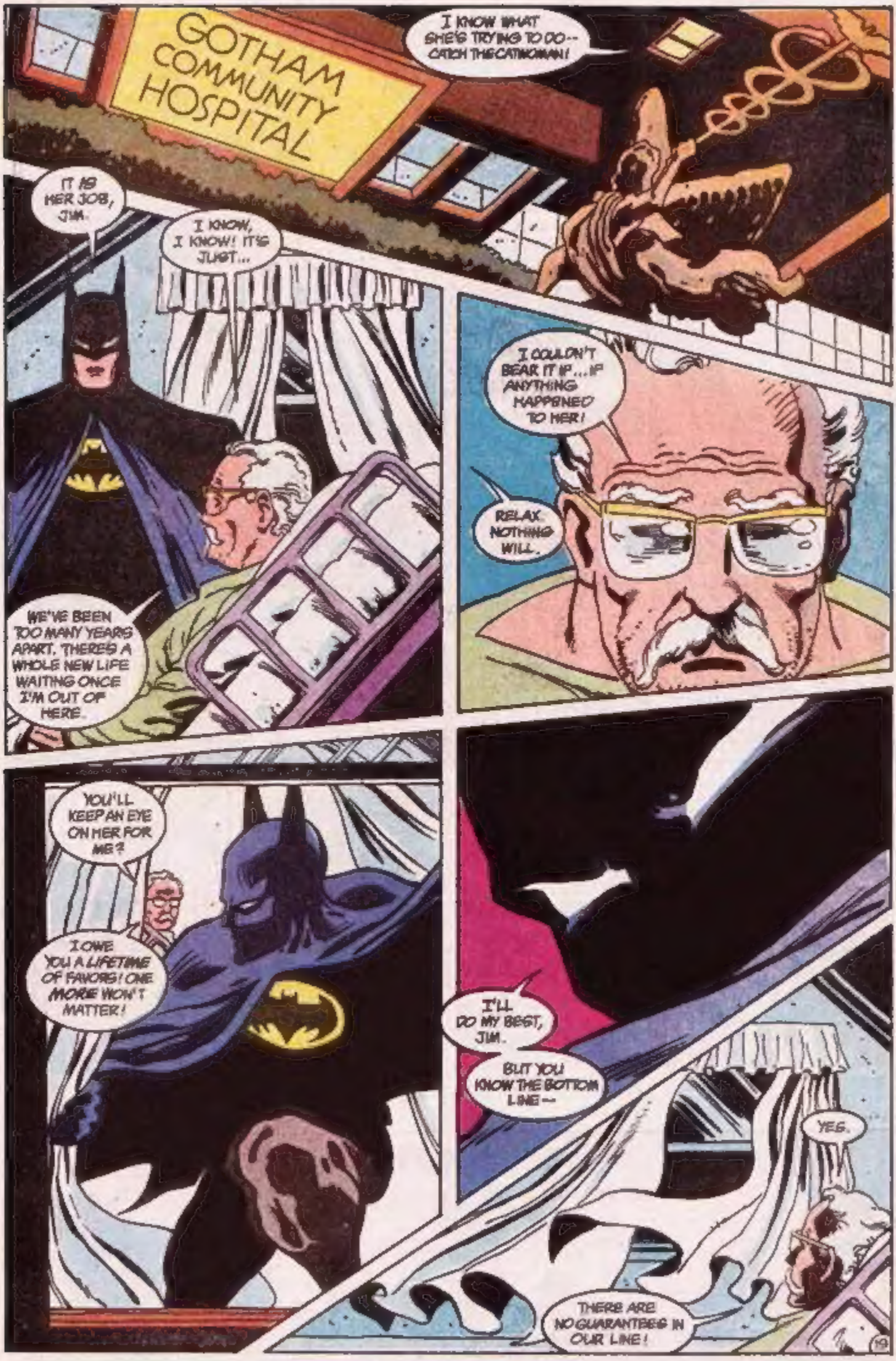
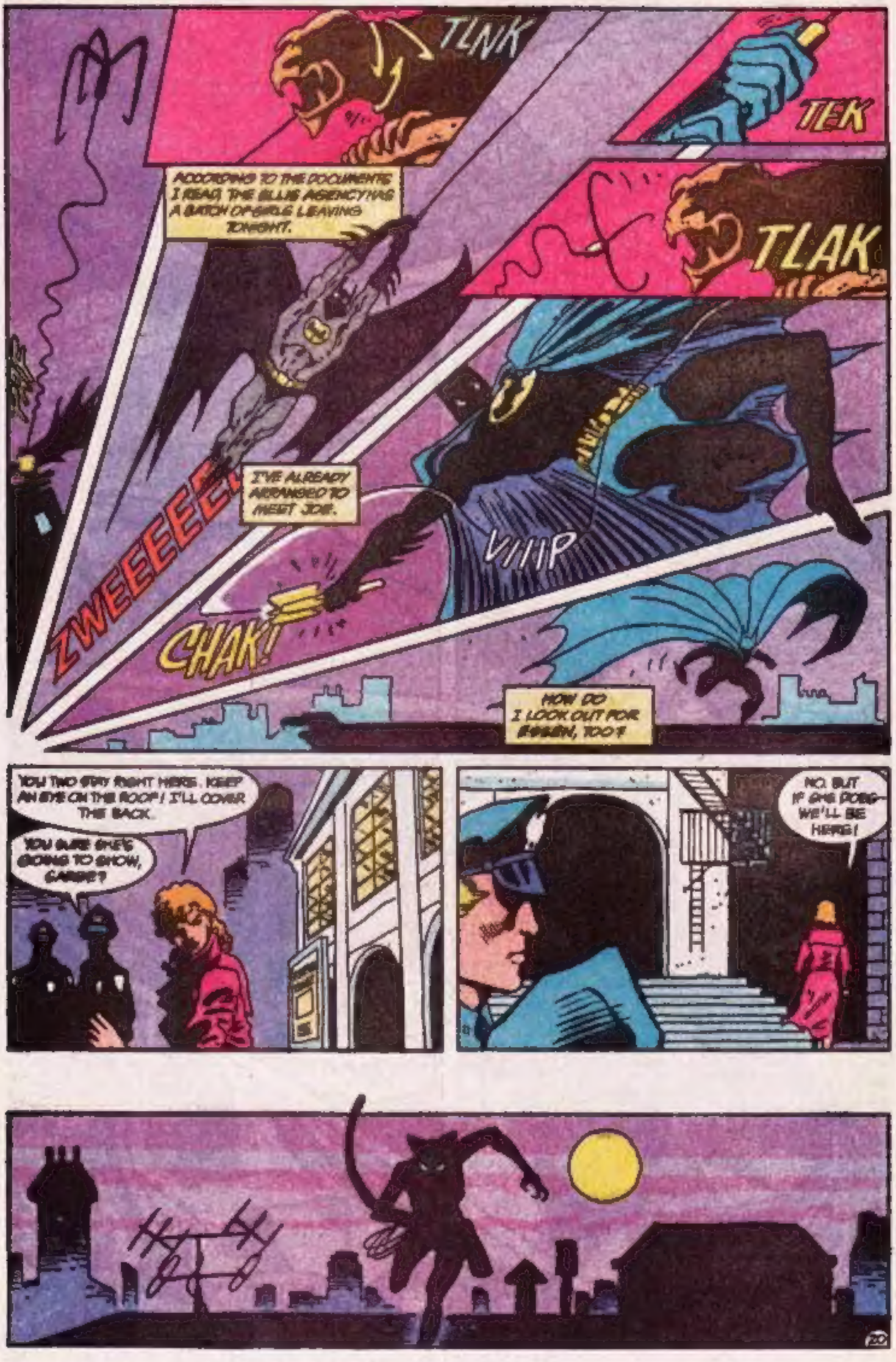

GOTHAM COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
I KNOW WHAT SHE'S TRYING TO DO-- CATCH THE CATWOMAN!
IT IS HER JOB, JIM.
I KNOW, I KNOW! IT'S JUST...
WE'VE BEEN TOO MANY YEARS APART. THERE'S A WHOLE NEW LIFE WAITING ONCE I'M OUT OF HERE.
I COULDN'T BEAR IT IF... IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HER!
RELAX. NOTHING WILL.
YOU'LL KEEP AN EYE ON HER FOR ME?
I OWE YOU A LIFETIME OF FAVORS! ONE MORE WON'T MATTER!
I'LL DO MY BEST, JIM.
BUT YOU KNOW THE BOTTOM LINE--
YES.
THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES IN OUR LINE!


TLNK
TEK
TLAK
ACCORDING TO THE DOCUMENTS I READ, THE ELLIS AGENCY HAS A BATCH OF GIRLS LEAVING TONIGHT.
ZWEEEEE
I'VE ALREADY ARRANGED TO MEET JOE.
VIIP
CHAK!
HOW DO I LOOK OUT FOR ROGER, TOO?
YOU TWO STAY RIGHT HERE. KEEP AN EYE ON THE ROOF! I'LL COVER THE BACK.
YOU SURE SHE'S GOING TO SHOW, GARBO?
NO, BUT IF SHE DOES WE'LL BE HERE!

--BEEN DYING FOR A CHANCE TO TRY THIS NEW INFRA-RED LENS...
EGYPT EXHIBIT GOTHAM GALLERY 2 BLOCKS EAST
KLK
I KNEW SHE WOULDN'T LET ME DOWN!
--ALL GET HERE, MR. LONDINI! WE'LL BE READY TO LEAVE IN THIRTY MINUTES.
MAKE IT AN HOUR. JUST TO BE SAFE.
TAKE UP YOUR POSITIONS. AND REMEMBER MY INSTRUCTIONS--
--SHE IS TO BE HARMED NO MORE THAN NECESSARY!
KARNAK'S EMERALD CAT AWAITS YOU, MY FELINE FRIEND!
DO NOT DISAPPOINT ME! COME!
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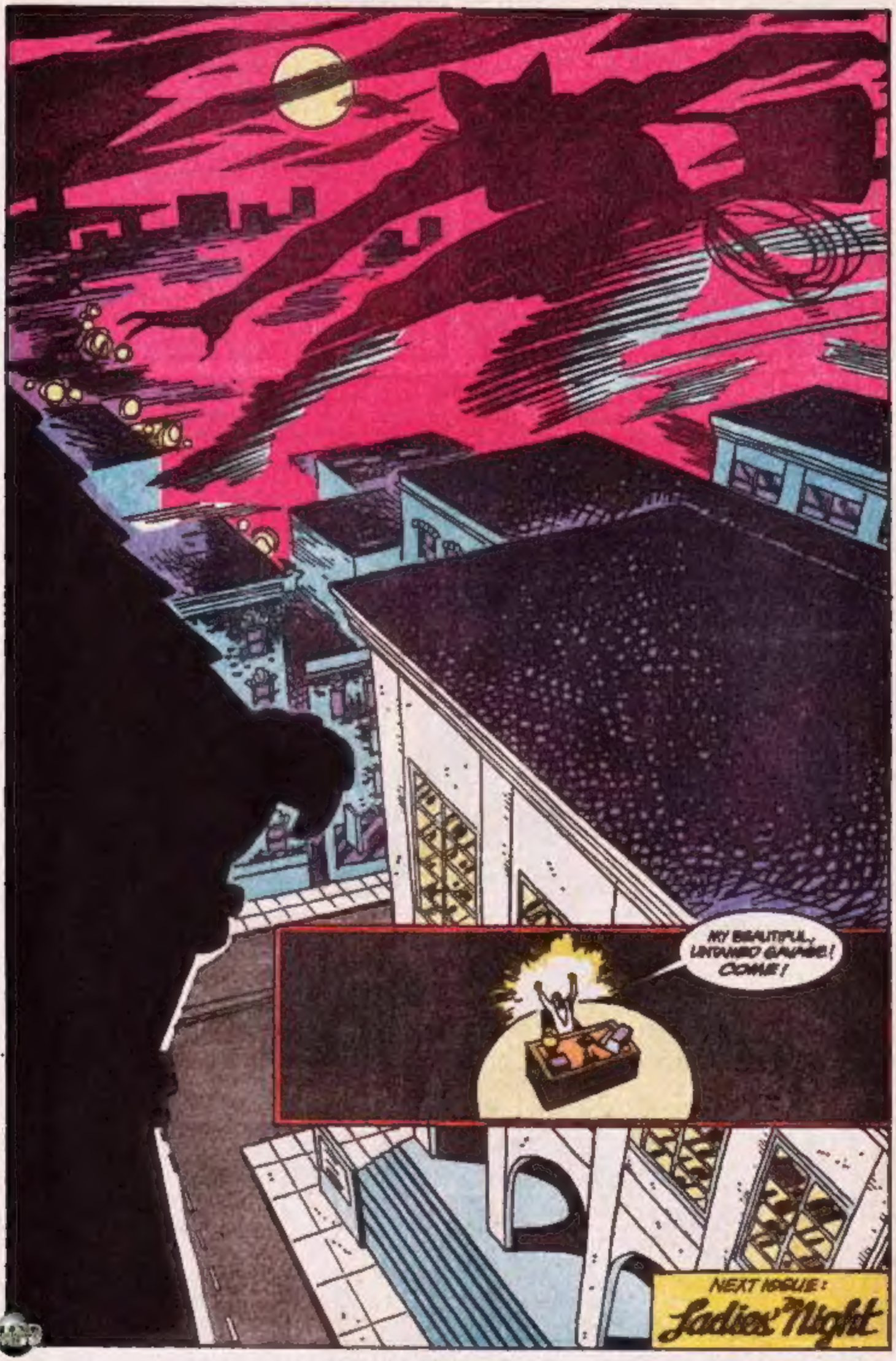
MY BEAUTIFUL, UNTAMED GARGOYLE! COME!
NEXT ISSUE:
Ladies' Night